

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/913,576

Applicant(s)

ELO, HARRI

Examiner

Daniel Swerdlow

Art Unit

2644

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to request for continuing examination and amendment filed 1 March 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18 and 19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 13 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. Regarding Claim 18, Ashley discloses a coupler for a communications system in which voice and data signals share a local loop between a central office and a customer premise (i.e., a method for implementing narrowband and broadband services on a transmission link of a telecommunications network) (column 2, lines 16-26). Ashley further discloses voice signals below 4 kHz and data signals above 40 kHz (i.e., transferring signals belonging to a narrowband service in a first frequency range below a given threshold frequency and signals belonging to a broadband service in a second frequency range above said threshold frequency in the transmission link) (column 2, lines 36-41). Ashley further discloses a passive low pass filter (Fig. 3, reference 312; Fig. 5; column 4, lines 17-21) connected between the tip and ring lines (i.e., the transmission link) and the low-band transceiver (i.e., separating signals relating to the narrowband service) via a generalized impedance converter (Fig. 5, reference 502; column 4, lines 61-65) between the low-pass filter and the low-band transceiver (i.e., between the transmission link side and a single discrete active impedance converting means). Ashley further discloses the generalized impedance converter (Fig. 5, reference 502; column 4, lines 61-65) between the low-pass filter and the low-band transceiver (i.e., between the low-pass filter and the first interface). Ashley further discloses a high-pass filter (Fig. 3, reference 301; column 4, lines 41-44) between the tip and ring lines and a high band transceiver (i.e., separating signals relating to broadband service in a high-pass filter unit connected between the transmission link and a second interface). However, Ashley discloses only embodiments with two generalized impedance converters (Fig. 5) or no generalized impedance converters (Figs. 6, 7). As such

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Ashley fails to disclose "a single discrete active impedance converting means" and "discrete active impedance converting means located entirely between the passive low-pass filter block and a first interface". Similarly, US Patent 5,623,543 to Cook discloses a low-pass filter for a DSL splitter that uses a pair generalized impedance converter bracketing the filter (Fig. 4, reference 300, 400). As such the prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest "a single discrete active impedance converting means" and "discrete active impedance converting means located entirely between the passive low-pass filter block and a first interface" as claimed or "matching conducted entirely after ... separating the signals" as claimed. As such, Claim 18 is allowable.

3. Claim 19 is essentially similar to Claim 18 and is allowable for the same reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel Swerdlow whose telephone number is 703-305-4088. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh H. Tran can be reached on 703-305-4040. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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16 March 2005



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER